

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-10. (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (new): A method of dry cleaning an article, especially fabric, comprising the successive steps of:

a) contacting the article with a fluid dry cleaning composition containing densified carbon dioxide at a temperature between -20 and 60°C and a pressure between 1 and 100 MPa, so as to allow stains to dissolve and/or to disperse into the fluid dry cleaning composition and

b) separating the article and the fluid dry cleaning composition;

wherein the fluid dry cleaning composition comprises ionic surfactant in a concentration of between 0.01 and 15% by weight of the carbon dioxide and wherein during step a) at least 10% of said ionic surfactant is present in an undissolved solid form; said ionic surfactant being represented by the formula R_1X , XR_1X or R_2YR_2 ; wherein:

R_1 is a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous C_1 - C_{22} alkyl; a substituted or unsubstituted, optionally heterogeneous C_3 - C_{16} cycloalkyl; a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous C_1 - C_{22} alkenyl; or a substituted or unsubstituted, optionally heterogeneous aryl;

R_2 and R_2 independently are R_1 , X , R_aX or $R_a(X)_2$;

R_a is a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous C_1 - C_{22} alkyl; a substituted or unsubstituted, optionally heterogeneous C_3 - C_{16} cycloalkyl; a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous C_1 - C_{22} alkenyl; or a substituted or unsubstituted, optionally heterogeneous aryl;

and wherein

X is NH_2 , NH_3^+ , $COOM_1$, COO^- , $OP(O)(OM_1)(OM_2)$, $OS(O)_2(OM_1)$;

Y is NH ; and

M_1 and M_2 independently represent sodium, potassium, ammonium or hydrogen.

Claim 12 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the duration of step a) exceeds 1 minute.

Claim 13 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the method comprises a rinsing step wherein the fluid dry cleaning composition is replaced by a rinsing composition containing densified carbon dioxide, but no undissolved ionic surfactant.

Claim 14 (new): The method according to claim 13, wherein the rinsing composition contains co-solvent and/or water.

Claim 15 (new): The method according to claim 14, wherein X is NH_2 and/or COOM_1 and Y is NH.

Claim 16 (new): The method according to claim 14, wherein R_1 and R_a independently are a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{22}$ alkyl or are a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, optionally heterogeneous $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{22}$ alkenyl.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the fluid dry cleaning composition contains between 0.0001 and 5 wt.% water.

Claim 18 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the fluid dry cleaning composition contains a co-solvent selected from the group consisting of aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons, and esters and ethers thereof, alkyl and dialkyl carbonates, alkylene and polyalkylene glycols, and ethers and esters thereof, lactones, alcohols and diols, polydimethylsiloxanes and combinations thereof.

Claim 19 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein step a) comprises contacting the article with the fluid dry cleaning composition at a temperature between 0 and 30°C.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein step a) comprises contacting the article with the fluid dry cleaning composition at a pressure between 2 and 25MPa.

Claim 21 (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein during step a) at least 30% of the ionic surfactant is present in an undissolved solid form.